McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

February 20, 2009

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# 7th Airlift Squadron prepares to deploy

By **Tyler Hemstreet** Staff writer

Approximately 125 Airmen from McChord's 7th Airlift Squadron are set to leave here next week for a 120-day deployment to the war zone in support of the Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 7th AS Airmen deploy as the Airlift 817th Expeditionary Squadron operating from various throughout Europe, Southwest Asia and the Middle East area of responsibility.

They replace the 8th Airlift Squadron, which is due to return home March 4 or 5.

On Wednesday, Airmen from the 7th AS gathered in the squadron's auditorium for last minute deployment details as a group. While aircrews are used to fulfilling routine 10-12 day flyaway missions to overseas locations, deploying as a group brings the squadron together, said Lt. Col. J.R. Twiford, 7th AS com-

"Prior to stepping out the door on the deployment, it is awsome to see

everyone in the squadron together," Colonel Twiford said.

Nearly 80 percent of 7th AS Airmen leaving as part of the group have deployed more than once, he

While deployed, Airmen will focus on the flying mission first, followed by other goals including fitness and continued education and training, Colonel Twiford said.

"Life gets pretty simple when you deploy," he said. "You have the chance to get really good at the things you do."

And that will include lots of fly-

"Everybody is excited about going," said Senior Airman Sara Arps, 7th AS loadmaster. "This is a good chance for us to do our prima-

ry job ... fly on a regular basis." The 817th EAS, headquartered at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, is responsible for scheduling, planning and executing all C-17 Globemaster III missions into the U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility including Iraq and Afghanistan.

Both unit and group deployment managers worked hard over the last three weeks to get everyone in the 7th AS ready to go, said Chet



Airmen from the 7th Airlift Squadron work their way through the deployment line Wednesday as they prepare to leave next week on a 120-day deployment to various locations throughout Europe, Southwest Asia and the Middle East area of responsibility.

"The flying squadron taskings don't come down as early as normal taskings," Mr. Richwine said. "For the last two weeks there have been process again for the 10th AS.

Richwine, 62nd Operations Support changes in the taskings every day."

The UDMs will breathe a sigh of relief for a couple days once the 7th AS gets out the door, Mr. Richwine said, but then get ready to start the

# Coming Sunday: single 800 number for all Airmen

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Members of the total force — regular Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, civilian and retired Airmen — are on line to have one central phone number for help with their personnel questions starting at 5 p.m. Central Standard Time Sunday.

Members of the Air Force community should call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102 to reach a customer service counselor to discuss issues ranging from retraining, promotions and identification cards to leave, retirements and civil-

While this number already is familiar to Airmen who call the Air Reserve Personnel Center's contact center in Denver, it's a change for Airmen who call the toll-free number currently assigned to the Air Force Personnel Center's contact center in San

Having a single phone number for the entire force will make it easier for all of our customers to reach us so we can give them the most accurate and up-to-date information," said Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree, 4th Air Force commander and former ARPC commander. "It's vitally important in this fast-moving environment that we keep providing accurate, consistent and understandable answers

to all Airmen and their families."

The single number is a first step toward the Total Force Service Center, or TFSC, concept. This concept provides Airmen seamless access to personnel information and services regardless of the organization or system actually providing it. With the single number, the ARPC and AFPC contact centers become virtually connected, making it easier for all Airmen to reach their needed personnel

Teams will be working throughout the day on Sunday making the TFSC number the single access point for all the Air Force components and their families. Once all the telephone lines are reorganized, Airmen dialing in will be appropriately routed to either San Antonio or Denver, depending on the selections they make from the updated

Customers dialing the 800 number might experience minimal disruption in service while the number is being transferred.

"This is just one more example of how we are providing smarter and better personnel services to our total force," said Maj. Gen. K.C. McClain, AFPC commander. "Technology is allowing us to interface with our Airmen or commanders when they want to work personnel actions, without the

Countdown to success

Airmen ever leaving their homes or offices.

"Above all, we want to hear from you about your experiences with the centers," said General McClain. "We value feedback from the customers so we can continue to improve how we deliver our services to you."

AFPC-serviced Airmen should continue using 800-616-3775 until 5 p.m. CST Sunday. After that time, those who call the former number will be advised of the change in phone numbers.

For those calling from outside the United States, dial the toll-free AT&T Direct Access Number for the country they are located, then dial 1-800-525-0102. AT&T Direct Access Numbers are found at www.business.att.com/bt/dial\_guide.jsp.

There is no change for individuals with hearing impairments. They can still reach the civilian Benefits and Entitlements Service Team and AFPC's Personnel Systems Operations Control Center, as well as ask employment questions, by calling the Telephone Device for the Deaf number, 800-382-0893. The commercial TDD number is 210-565-2276.

Airmen and their families also can find answers to many of their personnel questions at AFPC's http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil or ARPC's http:// www.arpc.afrc.af.mil.

### Weekend Weather **SATURDAY**

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Thursday Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

Low: 38

Low: 35

**150** days Rodeo ..... **248** days Operational Réadiness Inspection .....

### Don't miss it ... **African American History Month**

The base hosts a recognition ceremony from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday at the McChord Clubs and Community Center.



### Letters to the Airmen: Focusing on diversity

**Michael Donley** 

Secretary of the Air Force

The strength of the Air Force comes from our people - and in large measure from our diversity. We join together from all walks of life to collectively serve our Nation and its flag. Whether Regular, Reserve, Guard or Civilian, all of us take pride in our service, pledging that every action reflects our personal best. We also take pride in each other, bound through our common duty to

perform the mission and perform it

Our motivations to serve are unique. But in joining the Air Force team, each of us commits to the Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do. It is from our collective obligation to these core values that the Total Force draws its greatest strength. We respect and embrace the diversity of our teammates — recognizing that all are important, and all are valued. Our varied backgrounds and skill sets have prepared us to meet any challenge the

Air Force may confront.

Across the Service, we represent a broad range of diverse missions, family situations, ethnicities, faiths, races and educational backgrounds. Yet together, this rich tapestry forms the world's finest Air Force drawn from the best talent that America has to offer. I am proud of the work you do on behalf of our great country.

Each of us brings a rich heritage, unique experience and compelling personal story - and we are proud of that diversity. As we join together in public service, I encourage you to learn from

each other and draw from the unique strengths that your teammates bring to our Service and the Nation.

The Air Force continues to fly, fight and win in air, space and cyberspace with some of the most sophisticated equipment known to humankind, but it is you - America's Airmen and civilians - who are the Air Force's heart and soul. Thank you for all that you and your families do, and for your continuing support in leveraging the vast scope of our diverse backgrounds to ensure we remain the world's finest Air

## Enlisted perspective defines 'Service Before Self'

**Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley** chief master sergeant of the Air Force

What does "Service before Self" really mean? As Airmen, we raise our right hand and swear to defend our country, but how far does this commitment carry into our every action ... our every endeavor?

When we look for guidance on serving, we need to look no further than the "Little Blue Book," the United States Air Force Core Values booklet. The booklet says, "Service before self tells us that professional duties take precedence over personal desires." The booklet goes on to say we must place the needs of others above our own personal comfort, that we must exhibit discipline and self-control in our daily affairs, and that we must have faith in the system—our Air Force. Faith in the system is also having faith in our leaders. We have to understand they have the facts and make decisions based upon the needs of the Air Force and all

The booklet also states this core value is about following the rules. "To serve is to do one's duty, and our duties are most commonly expressed through rules. While it may be the case that professionals are expected to exercise judgment in the performance of their duties, good professionals understand that rules have reasons for being, and the default position must be to follow those rules unless there is a clear, operational reason for refusing to do so,' according to the booklet.

We place service ahead of our own self interests in many ways. When we deploy; when we take a new assignment, even though it isn't the location or the timeframe we may have wanted; when we must retrain out of our career field, even though we are very happy in our present duty - these are all examples of service before

Service before self does not mean you stop taking care of your families. Our families are a critical element of the Air Force family. Our service should enhance their health, morale and

welfare - not take away from it. While Air Force duties take up a large chunk of our time, we must take every opportunity to spend time with our families and involve ourselves in their lives

This principle of service before self also does not mean Airmen should not pursue higher education, participate in off-duty activities or pursue personal and professional development. The Air Force desires well-rounded Airmen who are physically, mentally and spiritually grounded. İt is beneficial when these extra-curricular pursuits align with service and mission requirements.

I know Airmen are proud to serve. Everywhere I travel I encounter Airmen who serve our great nation with diligence, commitment and unwavering devotion. Many of our severely wounded warriors are overcoming huge physical barriers to continue serving in the Air Force. While every Airman does not have to deal with this level of extreme personal sacrifice, we all have the same calling to place service before self in everything we do.

# The Sharp Airman ...

Knows to be credible, leaders must have humility, commitment and the ability to enhance the organization by drawing out the unique strengths of each member.

The Sharp Airman also knows they must get their hands dirty from time to time. Only by being at the front will the leader be able to feel the pace and progress, as well as the problems.

Lastly, the Sharp Airman knows credibility is very fragile and takes years to earn through persistent, consistent and patient leadership; yet credibility can be lost with one thoughtless remark, act or broken agreement.

### **Professionals**

of the week

### 62nd Aerial Port Squadron

### **Tony Bamba**

**Duty title:** Aircraft services work leader

Duty section: Ramp section

Hometown: Mongmong Village, Guam

### Why he's tops:

Mr. Bamba started his Air Force career as an active duty member in July 1979, eventually retiring in November 2001. He

became a civilian employee with the 62nd APS shortly after his military retirement and currently manages aircraft loading operations for the air freight flight. Mr. Bamba's performance and demeanor throughout his time at the 62nd APS has been exceptional. As one of the squadron's Nuclear Surety representatives, Mr. Bamba was recognized as an exceptional performer during the 2009 Defense **Nuclear Surety Inspection.** 



### Staff Sgt. James Wall

Duty title: Information controller

**Duty section:** Air transportation operation center

Hometown: Columbia, S.C.

### Why he's super:

Sergeant Wall does an exceptional job overseeing all air terminal functions for arrival and departures as directed by the

command post and base operations. He is also a squadron physical training leader. Since all Airmen assigned to the 62nd APS are assigned to a very active deployment schedule, he plays a critical role helping the commander ensure all 62nd APS Airmen are fit to fight. After attending one of his fitness sections, it is easy to see why he always gets a 100 on his fitness tests.



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**Commentary** 

### New career assistance advisor available

By

Master Sgt. Randall Robinett 62nd Force Support Squadron

Should I stay or should I go?

It's a question that each of us has asked ourselves at least once while in the Air Force. I, too, have struggled with that question several times and understand finding the answer isn't always that simple. The question can easily become the greatest stressor in an Airman's life. It is not a decision one can make without knowing all the facts and weighing all the options. As McChord's career assistance advisor, it's my job is to help Airmen see all the opportunities they have available to them and help them make the best informed decision. It is all about opportunities and choices. Do you know what yours are?

In 20 years I've seen too many great Airmen, NCOs and officers leave the Air Force for ridiculous reasons. Some did not like where they were stationed, some did not like their jobs and some even separated because they did not see eye-to-eye with their supervisors. The shame is they were all proud to be members of the Air Force. It is all about opportunities and choices. Do you think they knew what theirs were?

What opportunities have you taken advantage of so far in your Air Force career? Here is some facts about just a few opportunities that exist in the Air Force that Airmen may not know about.

- There are 69 different special duty assignments.
- There's an incentive retraining program for first-term Airmen to entice the best of the best to stay in blue. It also includes a base-of-preference assignment.

- There are many commissioning opportunities that often go unfilled due to lack of applications.
- There are education initiatives that make it possible for Airmen to complete a bachelor's degree without spending a dime of their own money.

I see new opportunities every day.

Last June when I became retirement eligible, I struggled



Master Sgt. Randall Robinett

with the big question and finally chose to go. It was not an easy decision and it came with a great deal of heartache. I knew deep down that I would miss it. The Air Force has always been good to me. It has not always given me what I wanted, but it always gave me what I needed and when I needed it. I had finally made peace with my career decision when the position of career assistance advisor was advertised. I knew immediately this was a great opportunity. It was an opportunity to stay in blue for three more years. More importantly, it was an opportunity to give back to the same Air Force that has been so generous to me. Now I have the opportunity to serve other Airmen.

Military Training Instructor duty briefings are 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. March 18 in the Airman Leadership School auditorium of Bldg. 851. For more information, call 982-3395.



### Soup's on

Airman 1st Class Martin Heenan trains Airman 1st Class Nathaly Guardado, both 62nd Force Support Squadron, on the proper method to complete and review a food availability checklist Wednesday at the base dining facility. Dining facility Airmen played a pivotal role in the recent MOBEX, serving meals from a complete portable dining setup similar to a deployed location.



# Manas Air Base 'not irreplaceable,' official says

- By

**Army Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden** American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) —
Kyrgyzstan's parliament voted
Thursday to close Manas Air Base,
a key logistics hub for the U.S. military, but a senior Pentagon official
said the base closure would not
affect operations in Afghanistan.

"[Manas Air Base] is an important base for operations in Afghanistan, but it's not irreplaceable," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters here Feb. 19. "If it's not available to us, we'll find other means."

Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev still must sign the bill for the eviction to be official. If he signs the bill, troops will have 180 days to withdraw, based on a previous agreement made by the U.S. and Kyrgyz governments, he said.

Pentagon officials are aware of news reports that Bakiyev intends to close the base, Mr. Whitman said, but the United States hasn't received any official notification or orders to withdraw its military forces. "Our operations there today remain normal," he said.

Defense Department officials are considering what it may be able to offer the Kyrgyz government to continue operations, but will not agree to any price, Mr. Whitman said. Other options in the region are being considered, he said, but he would not give specifics on

countries or the status of discussions.

"We remain in close contact with allies in the region," he said. Russia and Kazakhstan report-

Russia and Kazakhstan reportedly have given the United States permission to transport nonlethal equipment and supplies by train into Afghanistan. Uzbekistan and Tajikistan also reportedly are being considered.

The United States pays \$17.4 million a year to use Manas Air Base, a major logistical and refueling hub supporting international troops in Afghanistan. The United States and Kyrgyzstan signed a "protocol of intentions" in 2006 that allowed the United States to renew the arrangement in one-year increments through July 2011. The

air base has been facilitating U.S. troops since 2001, shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks.

About 15,000 people and 500 tons of cargo transit through Manas each month. About 1,000 troops, most of them American, but some from France and Spain, are assigned to the base.

President Barack Obama authorized 17,000 more troops this week to reinforce international forces in Afghanistan, and Whitman said there will be no disruption in current or future operations there.

"The announcements we made are going to go forward with no disruption," he said. "If we are no longer permitted to use that base, we will start to transition our activities elsewhere."



The medical standard is one drink for women or two drinks for men if a daily drinker.

For periodic drinking, the standard is to keep the blood alcohol level or blood alcohol content under 0.05.

Use personal risk management
Use situational awareness
Use your wingman
Use a friend

0 Drinks under age 210 DUI'sMax 1 drink per hourMax 3 drinks in one night

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE



- Around McChord -



# Scientifically, speaking ...

Capt. Tracy Maestas, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, interviews a Carter Lake Elementary student about her science project as part of the judging portion of the Fourth Annual Science Fair held Wednesday at Carter Lake. Nearly 60 Airmen volunteered as science fair judges of the 85 fourth- and fifth-graders' projects, which were all on display inside the school gym.



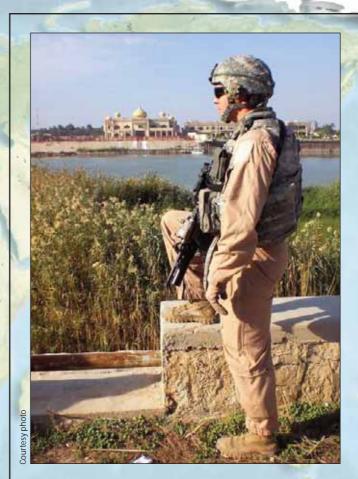
AROUND THE AIR FORCE -

### McChord Airmen

# AROUND THE WORLD



BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — Master Sgt. Steven Courson, 62nd Security Forces Squadron, back row on the far left, stands with his Fly Away Security Team during a recent deployment.



IRAQ — Staff Sgt. Robert Connelly, 62nd SFS, takes a break while working with the Army's 4th Infantry Division on a recent deployment.



# MOBEXISUCESS



# Exercise Winterhook declared success

### **By Tyler Hemstreet**

Staff Writer

Team McChord completed its second of four MOBEXs Feb. 13, taking another step toward October's Operational Readiness Inspection.

Col. Michael Hornitschek, 62nd Airlift Wing vice commander, praised everyone involved, from those who designed the exercise scenario to those who participated in the deployment and redeployment.

"During our deployment we repeatedly demonstrated our ability to survive and operate," Colonel Hornitschek said. "We also demonstrated our ability to successfully redeploy those forces to home station."

Team McChord's partner for the exercise, the 319th Air Refueling Wing at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., sent 30 functional experts to McChord to observe how the 62nd and 446th AWs trained before launching its own exercise next month.

"Team McChord had a great attitude going into and coming out of (last) week, and it was impressive to again watch the wonderful relationship between our groups and the 62nd and 446th work so effectively," the colonel said.

An interactive table top discussion Jan. 30 featuring key MOBEX players helped open many lines of communication during the exercise, said Maj. Jason Morrison, 62nd AW chief of plans and programs.

"You could really see everyone improving throughout the exercise," Major Morrison said

During the exercise itself, planners pushed those involved harder than likely what they will see from the Inspector General come October, he said.

"It's part of that mentality that you always

train harder, so that when you're tested

you'll really be ready," Major Morrison said.

That motto rang true for a group of 62nd Security Forces Squadron Airmen tasked with setting up a guard post in the South 40 location of the base.

Thirty-one Airmen working a 24-hour shift had to set up communication line and dig defensive fighting positions, said Master Sgt. Guy Dashnea, 62nd SFS sector defense commander during the exercise.

"This exercise was three times as hard as the previous one and definitely more realistic," Sergeant Dashnea said.

"The wing learned quite a few lessons from this exercise," Major Morrison said.

Those lessons will be detailed in a post-exercise briefing this afternoon.

This was the final MOBEX to be held at McChord in preparation for the ORI, as the next two are scheduled for May 2-8 and Sept. 12-18 in Alpena, Mich.























AIR FORCE NEWS

# Wing program helps Airmen get fit to fight

Ву

**Staff Sgt. Mike Andriacco** 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) — Officials in the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing have developed a unique program called the Body Mass Reduction Program which is designed to aid Airmen in achieving a healthy lifestyle while improving their mission capability and contributions to the wing.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley said in a Letter to Airmen in February 2008 that a healthy lifestyle is essential to the Air Force's war fighting capability and very well could save an Airman's life one day.

The goal 380th AEW's Body Mass Reduction Program is to aid Airmen in reducing their weight and maintaining a professional appearance, mission readiness, and improving their overall lifestyle.

The program is mandatory for any Airman with a Body Mass Index

above 30 upon their initial weigh-in at the 380th. The program guidance outlines mandatory requirements to aid participating Airmen in adjusting their lifestyle to reflect healthy nutrition and exercise habits.

Tech Sgts. Scott Day and Chad Gibson, from the 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron and 380th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron respectively, began their deployments with Body Mass Indexes greater than 30. Both men have made a commitment to bringing that number down and

changing their lifestyles to include better nutrition and a disciplined exercise regimen

exercise regimen.

Sergeants Day and Gibson found themselves in a less than ideal physical ph

ical condition through a variety of circumstances.

"I was playing volleyball on Sep. 10, 2001 when my knee went 'pop," Sergeant Day said. "The next day I saw a doctor and went through several years of off and on pain before I was diagnosed with a torn meniscus

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### AIR FORCE NEWS

From **Program**, Page 11 —

and had it surgically fixed in May of 2004."

During long periods of pain and physical therapy, Sergeant Day was limited in his activity and gained approximately 30 pounds, he said.

Unlike Sergeant Day, who had a major injury and convalescence that lead to his fitness breakdown, Sergeant Gibson attributes it to a number of smaller things that built up over time.

"It was a combination of things for me," he said. "Long work hours, old minor sports injuries causing my body to break down a little bit, and a production-focused Air Force culture where work took a priority over fitness for a number of years, led to a long-term weight gain."

Any member required to participate in the BMR program receives education at the nutrition and weight loss class offered twice a week. Airmen on the program are required to attend but anyone who would like to learn more about nutrition and healthy habits can voluntarily attend.

A key component to improving wellness is setting attainable goals, to keep focus and to measure progress.

Creating an exercise plan and making eating healthy a habit is a key to success health specialists say.

Both sergeants have developed exercise and diet routines that they stick to in order to monitor their progress. Just like every person is different, every exercise and diet regimen should be tailored to the individual based on his or her needs and goals.

Sergeant Day so far has lost eight pounds, he said. He runs three times per week and uses cardio equipment the rest of the time. He has an old, "unflattering" driver's license photo that keeps him motivated.

Sergeant Gibson uses a combination of exercises to keep himself from getting too bored with the routine or allowing his body to adapt to it. "I perform cardio exercise six days a week with a random day off to recover," he said.

Sergeant Gibson also cut out snacks but occasionally will have yogurt, fruit or tuna, he said.

Each unit's BMR program is tracked by the first sergeant and any questions about the program can be directed to the "shirt."

The BMR program is not a punishment, but a program meant to reinforce good habits and discipline, and both NCOs see it that way. They said they would be making the changes without the program, but it allows for another method of tracking their progress and keeps them motivated.



### Airmen train Afghan officers on command, control

By

**Staff Sgt. Zachary Wilson** U.S. Air Force Central combat news team

KABUL, Afghanistan (AFNS) — American Airmen graduated 16 senior Afghan air corps officers following a four-week-long course on command and control operations recently at the Kabul International Airport.

Air Force advisers from the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing and the 438th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group taught the Afghan Command and Control Center Course as the country's military continues to grow in both size and ability.

"These officers were formerly air defense and radar operators, and I was initially concerned about whether or not they were going to keep moving forward (as we transition to the Air Corps Control Center mission with them)," said Gen. Darwan, the Afghan national army air corps commander. "However, these officers are very experienced and talented and we are pleased with their progress. We will grow this (function) just as we are growing the air corps as a whole."

The Afghan officers — who range in rank from brigadier general to captain — will form the initial cadre who will be charged with training the Afghan air corps members who come after them, said Maj. David Milner, a 438th AEG adviser who

had a significant role in training the

"(Having an air corps control center) will give the air corps the capability to control all Afghan airpower within the country's boundaries and eventually internationally," said Major Milner, who is a C-17 Globemaster III pilot deployed from Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. "What we have essentially designed here is a small-scale version of a combined air and space operations center. The Afghan air corps obviously has a way to go toward getting that capability, but this is the first step."

The current Afghan national army air corps is almost exclusively mobility based and the current air corps control center reflects that mission but beginning in 2011, the role of the control center will expand to include combat operations capabilities and "in the far future, I anticipate they should have all the components of command and control needed to have the ability to create air tasking orders" as is done in the U.S. Air Forces Central's Combined air and Space Operations Center facility, Major Milner said.

Though the officers were very experienced, there were some challenges that had to be met by Major Milner and the other Air Force advisory staff.

"They were taught a lot of what they know through old Soviet-era doctrine," he said. "In order to make

Photo by Staff Sgt. James L. Harper Jr.

Afghan army air corps members attend a graduation ceremony for the Afghan Command and Control Center Course recently at Kabul, Afghanistan. The command and control course taught by U.S. Airmen is four weeks long and graduated 16 members.

them effective, we had to show them the Western perspective, and they really learned from it."

By having a centralized location to control all of its air assets and a group of highly trained and skilled air corps leadership, the government of Afghanistan will be able to effectively deploy airpower to its far expanses to support a variety of missions, whether that is troop movements, medical evacuation or humanitarian relief.

"(The ACCC) is so important to make the air corps the effective and powerful instrument it can be in the future," Brig. Gen. Walter D. Givhan, the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, told the graduates in English after addressing them in their native Dari language. "Let's go forward together."



#### McChord chiefs' induction

Team McChord will recognize its newest chief master sergeants at a special ceremony at 6 p.m. March 6 McChord Clubs at the Community Center ball room. The menu is surf and turf buffet and cost is \$21 for club members and \$23 for non-members. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Dan Sacks at 982-2441.

#### **Retiree Activities Office**

The Retiree Activities Office is looking for volunteers to assist with upcoming events and work in the office located in the customer service mall in Bldg. 100. The RAO is a resource and referral center which information concerning issues pertinent to retirees, including ID cards, DEERS, Tri-Care, health benefit changes, social security and space available travel.

This year's annual dining out event is set for 6 p.m. April 17 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. In addition to the banquet, the event includes a guest speaker and historical military reenactment.

The RAO is open weekdays, 9 a.m. to noon. For more information on the RAO or the dining out event, call 253-982-3214 or visit www.mcchordrao.com.

#### McChord Phoenix Spouse voicemail

The Phoenix Spouse program here now has voicemail (982-PHNX) for families wanting to contact or get more information about their unit's Phoenix Spouses. The voicemail gives every squadron the ability to have a personalized mailbox where people can leave messages for Phoenix Spouses.

#### Peanut recall

Updated information on the recall of contaminated peanut products is available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Web site: http:// www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics /salmonellatyph.html.

The Public Health office here is coordinating recalls with base food establishments. According to Public Health officials, recalled items have been pulled from McChord shelves and no illnesses have been attributed to affected food items. For more information, call the Public Health office at 982-3717.

#### New hours at wing self-help store

The wing self-help store hours of operation are now 8 a.m. to noon weekdays. It closes on holidays and Air Mobility Command Family Days.

#### Flu shots now available

Flu vaccine is now available for active duty family members and retirees at the Immunizations Clinic here. For more information, call 982-5189.

### **Online GTC registration**

Online registration for the new CITI Bank government travel card is at available at: https://home.cards. citidirect.com/CommercialCard/ Cards.html.

Online statements for cardholders will not be available before the client receives their first paper statement. The cardholder must enter their card number, account

name and address information in the exact format as it appears on the paper statement. For example, words like court, street, or road must be input exactly as they appear on the paper statement, either abbreviated or spelled out. Cardholders will also need their complete zip code, as displayed on the paper statement.

#### MTI briefings

The wing Career Assistance Advisor hosts Military Training Instructor duty briefings 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. March 18 in the Airman Leadership School auditorium of Bldg. 851. For more information, call 982-3395.

#### Madigan Annex TBI Program classes

Traumatic Brain **Injuries** Program Education Series classes for educators and healthcare providers are offered Thursdays at the Madigan annex. For more information, call the TBI Nurse Educator, Lindy Peterson, at 968-

#### New housing gate hours

The Woodbrook housing gate is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call the 62nd Security Forces Squadron at 982-5100.

#### FTAC in-processing now online

All first-term Airmen arriving from technical training must register via the Team McChord Professional Development Community of Practice at https:// afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/Open CoP.asp?Filter=AM-DP-00-16. For more information, call 982-6682.



**CATHOLIC SERVICES and** RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

All Catholic services are in chapel Saturday

4 p.m. Confession: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 5 p.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 11 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

12:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 Monday:

12:00 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center,

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation: 1st,2nd & 3rd Wednesday of the month Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 6:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

#### PROTESTANT SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Sunday: 8:30 a m. Liturgical Worship Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

9:45 a.m. Sunday School: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 . 11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

and programs, please call 982-5556. To contact Duty Chaplain after duty hours, contact the Command Post

For more information on Chapel services

at 982-2635 JEWISH SERVICES:

> **Friday**: 6 p.m. Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month: Ft Lewis, Chapel 5, Bldg. T-2270

OTHER PROGRAMS: The following Chapel programs take

place at the Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746. Tuesday: 9:30 a m. Mothers of Preschoolers

(MOPS); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 6 p.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Bible Study; 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of the month

Wednesday: 11 a.m. Adult Bible Study



### Names To Note

The following Airmen graduated Feb. 12 as part of the Airman Leadership School Class 09-B.

 Senior Airman Christopher Aversa, 7th Airlift Squadron
 Senior Airman Alexander

Osborn, 7th AS

- **Senior Airman Jon Polka**, 7th AS
- Senior Airman Zachary Smith, 10th Airlift Squadron
- Senior Airman Scott Alarcon, 62nd Force Support Squadron
- Senior Airman PaulPhilip Brunson, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron
- Staff Sgt. David Garcia, 62nd APS
- ◆ Senior Airman Dean Hall, 62nd APS
- Staff Sgt. Michael Nipper, 62nd APS
- Senior Airman Jesse Doyle, 62nd Operations Support Squadron
- Senior Airman Fallon Farve, 62nd OSS
- Senior Airman Marie Gamache, 62nd OSS



Senior Airman Jena Taylor,62 OSS

• Senior Airman Michael Hanrahan, 194th Intelligence Squadron

• Staff Sgt. Thomas Johnson,

4th Airlift Squadron

• Senior Airman Evan Jones,

22nd Special Tactics Squadron ● Senior Airman Charles Langjahr, 62nd Maintenance Squardon

• Staff Sgt. Simon Malson, 22nd STS

• Senior Airman Courtney McNabb, 1st Weather Squadron

• Senior Airman Sheldon Moore, 86th Aerial Port Squadron

• Staff Sgt. Sean Mullins, 22nd STS

• Staff Sgt. Matthew Riechers, 22nd STS

• Staff Sgt. Christopher Varney, 5th Air Support Operations Squadron

Senior Airman Mark Walker,62nd Civil Engineer Squadron

### **AWARD RECIPIENTS:**

• John L. Levitow Recipient: **Airman Polka** 

• Distinguished Graduate:

**Sergeant Garcia**• Academic Achievement Award:

**Airman Gamache** 

• Leadership Award: **Sergeant Garcia** 

